

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

4. (Currently Amended) In a video game system having a video game program executing processing system for executing ~~said a video game program, and~~ at least one player controller operable by a player to generate video game control signals for controlling the operation of said video game system, ~~a player controller and a portable storage device for controlling storing said video game program for controlling the operation of said video game system;~~ a method for operating said video game system comprising the steps:

sending a data request command to processing circuitry in said player controller to initiate the transfer of data from said player controller to said video game program executing processing system;

processing said data request command by processing circuitry in said player controller to initiate the transfer of data to said video game program executing processing system;

sending a further command to said player controller to initiate a predetermined operation in said player controller; and

processing said further command by processing circuitry in said player controller to perform said predetermined operation.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein player

controller includes a RAM and said further command is a write to RAM command.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 41, wherein player controller includes a joystick and said data request command initiates the transfer of joystick related data to said video game program executing processing system.